

PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW SQUIRREL FROM NORTHEASTERN CHINA.

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During February, 1915, Mr. Arthur de C. Sowerby visited the recently opened hunting reserve in a well wooded region about sixty miles northeast of Peking. Here he took five specimens of a squirrel of the genus *Tamiops*, no member of which has hitherto been known to occur in northeastern China. The animals, he writes, are almost entirely arboreal in habits, living in holes in the oak trees. They are very active, taking enormous leaps from one tree to another. The species is readily distinguishable from those previously described.

***Tamiops vestitus* sp. nov.**

Type.—Adult male, with moderately worn teeth (skin and skull), No. 199,561, United States National Museum. Collected by Arthur de C. Sowerby at Hsin-lung-shan, south of Jehol and 65 miles northeast of Peking, China, February 15, 1915. Original number 754.

Diagnosis.—Size maximum for the genus; fur dense and soft, its quality suggesting that of a flying squirrel; general color pale and grayish; a broad median blackish stripe and two broad pale lateral stripes, all becoming abruptly indistinct at shoulder, but fading away gradually to root of tail.

Color.—Sides of body below outer pale stripe a light gray between drab-gray and pale-drab-gray of Ridgway, passing into dull pale-pinkish-buff on underparts and cheeks, and into a distinctly brighter buff on crown, neck and shoulders, this area slightly clouded by blackish hair-tips; crown somewhat more brownish and reddish than neck, approaching a rich tawny-olive; ear buffy on inner side, blackish along rim, buffy white on outer surface (the whitish hairs elongated to form noticeable tuft); median dorsal stripe blackish, about 7 mm. wide at middle, ending abruptly at shoulder but fading and narrowing gradually to base of tail; first lateral pale stripe essentially concolor with buff of neck, but without

the dark clouding; second pale stripe essentially concolor with buffy white of ear; region between pale stripes slightly darker and more brownish than sides of body; feet light buff or buffy white, about concolor with inner pale dorsal stripe; hairs of tail brownish buff, those at sides and on upper surface with black subterminal band (about 4 mm.) and buffy white tip, the undersurface about concolor with crown though less tinged with red; hairs at tip of tail black to extremities, but not forming a dark pencil.

Measurements.—Type, head and body, 123; tail, 88; hind foot, 31; ear, 16; condylobasal length of skull, 32.0; zygomatic breadth, 21.8; interorbital constriction, 12.2; breadth of braincase, 17.2; depth of braincase, 12.8; nasal, 10.4; diastema, 7.8; mandible, 21.0; maxillary toothrow (alveoli) 6.2; mandibular toothrow, 6.2.

Remarks.—Its full, soft fur and pale colors at once distinguish the boreal *Tamiops vestitus* from the austral members of the genus. In general type of markings it agrees with *T. hainanus* (Allen), and so far as can be judged from the descriptions, with *T. maritimus* (Bonhote) and *T. monticolus* (Bonhote).